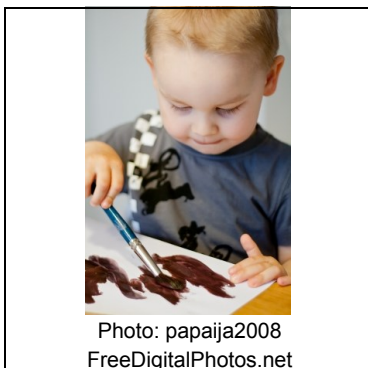
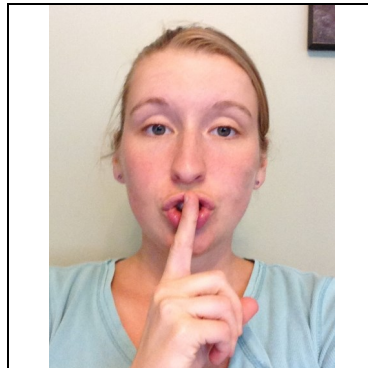
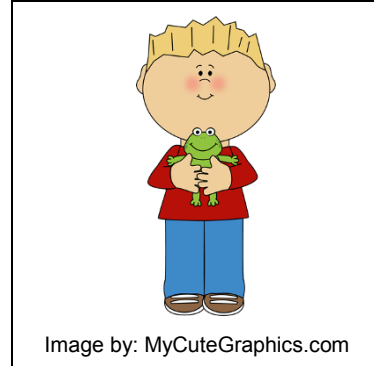
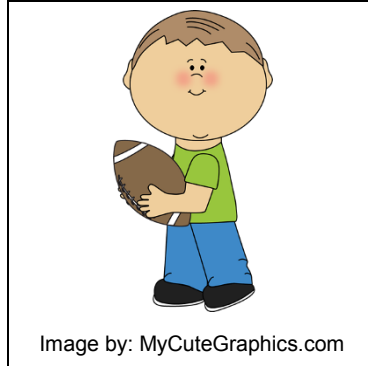
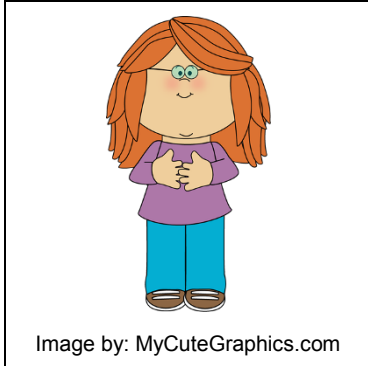


Pronouns He/She, Step One: Is that a Boy or a Girl?

Look at the pictures below and ask your child if each one is a boy or a girl.



Extra Practice:

Have your child tell you if other people are boys or girls. You can use people in your family, people your child sees on a regular basis, or people in pictures or books. Some children find either real photos or cartoons the easiest. Start with whichever one is easier for your child.

Pronouns He/She, Step Two: Short Phrases

Help your child practice saying “he” or “she” by cutting out the objects below and having your child place them next to either the boy or the girl. For each object, say “who wants the ___?”. Then, have your child say “he does” or “she does” before you give her the object to place next to the person.



Photo Courtesy of David Castillo Dominici
FreeDigitalPhotos.net



Photo Courtesy of Photostock
FreeDigitalPhotos.net



Extra Practice:

Help your child practice saying “he” and “she” in other settings as well. You can practice when you see people out in public or when you’re talking about who wants certain foods at dinner.

Pronouns He/She, Step Three: Sentences

Prompt your child with “tell me about this picture?” and help your child answer by saying a full sentence using the words “he” or “she”.



Standing



Sitting



Eating

Photo Courtesy of Photostock - FreeDigitalPhotos.net



Building

Photo Courtesy of Photostock - FreeDigitalPhotos.net

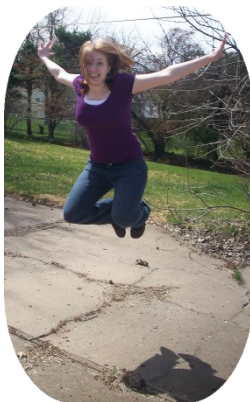


Running

Photo by David Castillo Dominici - FreeDigitalPhotos.net



Hugging



Jumping

Photo Courtesy of jackthumm - FreeDigitalPhotos.net



Washing Hands



Clapping

Extra Practice: You can practice this at home or in the community by talking about what people are doing. You can also look at family pictures or home movies and ask your child what people are doing in those. Make sure you help your child include the pronouns “he” and “she” in full sentences.

Pronouns He/She, Step Four: Short Stories

Your child is ready to start working on saying “he” and “she” when telling stories. Use the steps below to help your child learn how to use “he” and “she”.



1. Get out a story book that has both girl and boy characters that your child can clearly identify the gender of (gender-neutral characters and animals are not great for this).
2. Open to the first page and tell your child that you want her to read you the book. Ask her to tell you what's going on using only the pictures. If your child can already read, cover up the words so she doesn't get any hints as to if she's supposed to say “he” or “she”. Ask your child to describe the first picture. Make sure she uses full sentences with the pronouns “he” and “she” when appropriate. You can show your child what to do on the first several pages if she's having trouble.
3. As you read the story, continue to correct your child when she misuses “he” and “she”. After the story, see if your child can recall what happened while still using the pronouns “he” and “she”.

*** Alternative option: Have your child make up a story. While she's telling you the story, make sure she uses “he” and “she” as appropriate. Remind your child before she starts that you will be listening for “he” and “she”, then, remind her frequently while she's talking.

Pronouns He/She, Step Five: Conversation

Your child is ready to start working on saying “he” and “she” in conversational speech. Use the steps below to help your child generalize the pronouns “he” and “she” so that she begins to use them all the time.

1. At first, try not to correct every pronoun your child says incorrectly because there will most likely be a lot of them. Try setting aside a certain time that you will correct your child and let him know ahead of time. For example, you might say “Tonight at dinner, I want you to focus really hard on saying “he” and “she”. I’m going to help you remember if you forget, ok?”. This will help your child understand that you’re not going to bug him all of the time, just during certain “good speech time” activities.
2. As your child gets better, you can start catching and correcting more of his errors but start off small so that he doesn’t get frustrated. After a while, your child should begin to produce more correctly and you should be able to provide fewer prompts.
3. Use the following prompts to remind your child about using “he” and “she”:
 - ⇒ Repeat the error back as a question: “*She* is running?”
 - ⇒ Ask if the person is a boy or a girl and then ask which pronoun should be used: “Is that a boy or a girl? Ok, so should we say ‘*he*’s my friend’ or ‘*she*’s my friend’?”
 - ⇒ Catch the error and (kindly) point it out to your child: “Oh, you mean ‘*she* is happy’.”
 - ⇒ Fix the error without pointing it out: “Yes, *she* is at her Grandma’s house.”